

CEREAL AND HAY HARVEST, 1926-27.

WHEAT 35,535,566 (28,603,101) BUSH., AV. 12.87 (11.60) BUSH. PER ACRE.

I. ACREAGE UNDER CROP.

The area cropped for all kinds of Grains and Hay aggregated 3,780,688 (3,495,013) acres being an increase of 285,675 acres on the previous year, and exceeds the record year (1915-16) by over 100,000 acres. The following are the details:-

FOR GRAIN. Wheat 2,760,505 (2,465,648) acres, increase 294,857 acres. Barley 252,570 (239,337) acres, increase 13,233 acres. Oats 151,934 (158,062) acres, decrease 6,128 acres.

HAY. All kinds - 498,121 (517,220) acres, decrease 19,099 acres consisting of Wheaten 233,362 (273,300) acres, Oaten 255,527 (234,923) acres, Lucerne, Barley &c. 9,232 (8,997) acres.

II. PRODUCTION.

WHEAT. The season was the second best on record yielding 35,535,566 (28,603,101) Bushels, increase 6,932,465 Bushels, averaging 12.87 (11.60) Bushels per acre.

25 YEARS WHEAT GROWING. Number 3 table attached to this Report presents the development of wheat cultivation over a period of 25 years, the comparative facts being the annual means for the five quinquennial periods. The last five seasons' period eclipses any of the four previous periods in acreage, total yield, average per acre and value. For each of the last five seasons the wheat crop has averaged 31,600,803 Bushels - 12.54 Bushels per acre on the low approximate mean annual rainfall over the Agricultural areas from April to November of 12.39 Inches. The mean annual value of this crop is estimated at 28,526,205 at 5s. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per Bushel compared with a yield of 25,163,074 Bushels - 11.42 Bushels per acre on a 13.36 inch rainfall (April to November) valued at 27,971,083 at 6s. 4d. per Bushel, representing the mean for the immediate preceding five years period.

BARLEY. The yield of 4,376,752 (4,134,824) Bushels averaging 17.33 (17.28) Bushels per acre is now the record for quantity though less in average, the previous highest yield being in 1925-26, while the highest average was 19.53 Bushels per acre in 1920-21. Approximately 1,500,000 bushels have been exported to Oversea Countries.

OATS. The Oaten Crop of 1,774,815 (1,808,443) Bushels averaging 11.68 (11.38) Bushels per acre was 33,628 Bushels less than the previous year but was nevertheless a good average crop.

HAY - ALL KINDS. The total cut for hay of 598,025 (612,671) tons was less than for a number of years past. Wheaten 312,356 (363,417) tons, Oaten 271,744 (235,874) tons, Lucerne, Barley &c. 13,925 (13,380) tons.

III. BENEFITS OF FALLOWING.

Once again the wheat production on fallow land was collected separately from that produced on unfallowed land and the results demonstrated strongly the advantages to be gained by a well-prepared seed bed. The crops sown on unfallowed land averaged per acre only slightly more than one-half of those grown on fallow. Of the total crop, 27,059,861 Bushels were obtained from crops sown on fallow and averaged 15.28 Bushels per acre whilst the crops from the unfallowed land only yielded 8.56 Bushels per acre or 8,475,705 Bushels.

IV. EXPORTABLE SURPLUS.

After making the usual allowances for seed and home consumption, it is estimated that 29,500,000 Bushels would be available for export. Up to date, approximately 20,000,000 Bushels in the form of Wheat and flour have been exported to Oversea Countries and Interstate, thus leaving a balance still available of approximately 9,000,000 Bushels.

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

CEREAL AND HAY HARVEST - 1926-27.

1. ACREAGE CROPPED.

| DIVISION | WHEAT FOR GRAIN | | | Barley for Grain | Oats for Grain | Hay - All Kinds |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| | Total | On Fallow | Not on Fallow | | | |
| | Acres | Acres | Acres | Acres | Acres | Acres |
| Central | 510,598 | 446,839 | 63,759 | 184,418 | 26,264 | 172,054 |
| Lower North | 756,304 | 659,900 | 96,404 | 45,784 | 14,555 | 113,906 |
| Upper North | 224,187 | 189,467 | 34,720 | 920 | 2,961 | 25,729 |
| South East. | 31,778 | 19,216 | 12,562 | 9,116 | 15,476 | 26,687 |
| Western | 625,008 | 186,050 | 438,958 | 6,040 | 43,414 | 61,576 |
| Murray Mallee | 612,630 | 269,128 | 343,502 | 6,292 | 49,264 | 98,169 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | |
| 1926-27 | 2,760,505 | 1,770,600 | 989,905 | 252,570 | 151,934 | 498,121 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | |
| 1925-26 | 2,465,648 | 1,598,372 | 867,276 | 239,337 | 158,062 | 517,220 |
| INCREASE | 294,857 | 172,228 | 122,629 | 13,223 | -6,128 | -19,099 |

2. PRODUCTION OF GRAIN AND HAY.

| DIVISION | WHEAT | | BARLEY | | OATS | | HAY (All kinds) |
|---------------|------------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|--------------------|
| | Yield | Aver. | Yield | Aver. | Yield | Aver. | Yield |
| | Bush. | Bush. | Bush. | Bush. | Bush. | Bush. | Tons |
| Central | 7,327,446 | 14.35 | 3,115,763 | 16.90 | 358,723 | 13.66 | 254,833 |
| Lower North | 12,691,752 | 16.78 | 858,394 | 18.75 | 211,903 | 14.56 | 143,795 |
| Upper North | 2,660,055 | 11.87 | 12,513 | 13.60 | 39,999 | 13.51 | 28,495 |
| South Eastern | 522,778 | 16.45 | 253,993 | 27.86 | 276,001 | 17.83 | 34,613 |
| Western | 6,114,548 | 9.78 | 66,588 | 11.02 | 437,878 | 10.09 | 50,922 |
| Murray Mallee | 6,218,987 | 10.15 | 69,501 | 11.05 | 450,311 | 9.14 | 85,367 |
| TOTAL 1926-27 | 35,535,566 | 12.87 | 4,376,752 | 17.33 | 1,774,815 | 11.68 | 598,025 |
| TOTAL 1925-26 | 28,603,101 | 11.60 | 4,134,824 | 17.28 | 1,808,443 | 11.38 | 612,671 |
| INCREASE | 6,932,465 | 1.27 | 241,928 | 0.05 | -33,628 | 0.30 | -14,646 |

3. GROWTH OF WHEAT PRODUCTION.

Average annual wheat production in quinquennial periods, 1902-03 to 1926-27.

| Five seasons ending. | AREA | YIELD | AVERAGE PER ACRE. | RAINFALL (April to | VALUE OF CROP | |
|----------------------------|-----------|------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------|
| | Acres | Bushels | Bush. | November | Per Bush. | Total |
| | | | | Inches | s. d. | £ |
| 1906-07 | 1,748,317 | 13,839,606 | 7.92 | 14.98 | 3. 6 | 2,427,806 |
| 1911-12 | 1,927,699 | 21,672,908 | 11.24 | 13.97 | 3.10 | 4,175,204 |
| 1916-17 | 2,473,537 | 24,368,040 | 9.85 | 11.99 | 4. 5½ | 5,441,336 |
| 1921-22 | 2,204,121 | 25,163,074 | 11.42 | 13.36 | 6. 4 | 7,971,083 |
| 1926-27 | 2,519,501 | 31,600,803 | 12.54 | 12.39 | 5. 4¾ | 8,526,205 |

Statistical Office,
ADELAIDE,
13th June, 1927.

W. L. JOHNSTON,
Government Statist.